FLASHBACK

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FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

FLASHBACK

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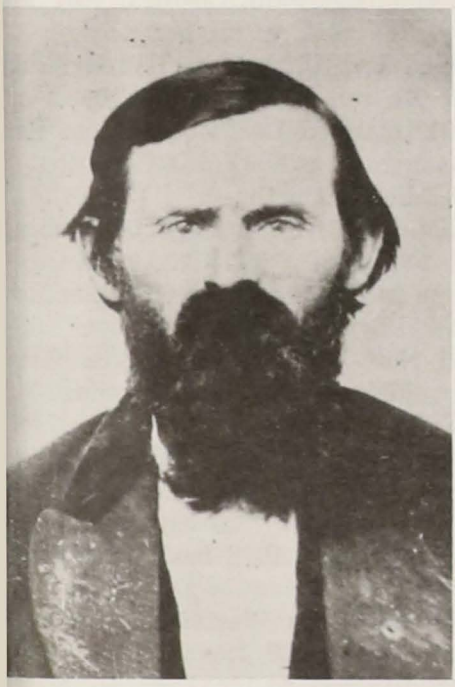
SNODGRASS

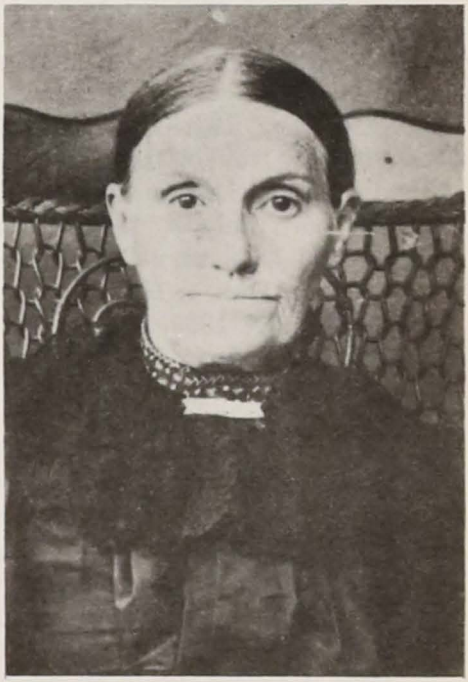
THE FAMILY OF
JAMES WILLIAM AND WINNIE BRADLEY SNODGRASS

James William Snodgrass was born June 10, 1828 in Sparta, Tenn. He died on May 11, 1882. On Dec. 29, 1855 he was married to Winnie Bradley who was born in Tennessee on Jan. 20, 1836 and died Feb. 11, 1908 at the home of her daughter, Mary Frances King.

The family came from Sparta, Tenn. to Arkansas about 1872 coming overland to Chattanooga, loading their teams and wagons and possessions on a boat they traveled to the Tennessee River and floated to the Mississippi River and later changed to the Arkansas River landing at Big Piney River near Clarksville. The family lived at Cabin Creek in Johnson County for two or three years then migrated to near Lincoln where their two youngest children were born.

James William and Winnie had 12 children: Mary Frances, Margaret Jane, John Phillip, Thomas Lafayette, Martha Allice, William James (Bill), George Washington, Florence Amanda, Winnie Lou, Elnora (Note), Emma D. and Anna Augusta.





The Children and Descendants of James William and Winnie Snodgrass

MARY FRANCES SNODGRASS

Born Aug. 8, 1856 in Tennessee. Married Oct. 13, 1887 to Allen King, born March 19, 1848. Their children:

1. Joseph Lafayette, born Feb. 12, 1888, married Celea Catherine Whinery, born Jan. 16, 1892. Their children: Joseph Richard, James Allen and Mary Catherine.
2. Hollie, married Jess Simpler. Their children: Merle, Ruth, Paul and Joe.
3. Lacy, married Jan. 22, 1916 Della Mae Rich. No children.
4. Powell, married Aug. 4, 1918 to Ruth Beaty. One child, Frances Jean.

MARGARET JANE SNODGRASS

Born Jan. 8, 1858 in Tennessee. Married Jan. 6, 1881 to Ben J. Hardy Rich, born Jan. 22, 1854. Their children:

1. Hattie B. born Dec. 6, 1881, married Dec. 25, 1899 to Travis Long Vawter, born Feb. 19, 1878. Their children: Myrtle Ivy, Sallie Viola Mable, Floyd, Billy, William Hardy, Icy Oneda, Maggie Marie, Minnie Pearl, Leonard Earl, Luther Frederick, John Travis and Lena B.
2. John Hardy born July 21, 1887, married Oct. 16, 1910 to Martha Findley, born Jan. 18, 1892. Their children: Paul, Clefford, Roy and Claud.
3. Lou Pearl, born Jan. 12, 1891, married Jan. 14, 1915 to Bell Henning. No children.
4. Bertie Mary Rich born Jan. 12, 1891, married Dec. 24, 1908, to Ben Hembree. No children.
5. Frances Myrtle, born Jan. 12, 1891, died at birth.
6. Fred, born July 6, 1892, married March 6, 1921 to Etta Cushing. One son, J. D. born Jan. 3, 1922.
7. Etta, born Dec. 1, 1893, married June 24, 1917 to James Paypon Roy, born Dec. 15, 1890. One son, Luther Paypon Roy.
8. Auda, born Aug. 8, 1895, married Nov. 14, 1920 to Virgie Beat Cushing, born Feb. 18, 1897. Their children: Dorothy, Norman, Mildred and Calvin (Sonny).
9. Clyde, born Jan. 8, 1897, married Feb. 25, 1917 Gene Findley, born Feb. 6, 1890, Jackson County Texas. Their children: Lawrence and Virginia Findley.
10. Floyd, born June 7, 1899, married Aug. 28, 1928 to Vida Watson. One son, Jackie Floyd Rich.
11. Orvil, born March 6, 1902. Living (1973) in Westville, Okla.

JOHN PHILLIP SNODGRASS

Born Nov. 29, 1861, married Sept. 10, 1891 to Ida Frances Beatty, born Feb. 9, 1873. Their children:

1. William Frank, born March 21, 1892 died May 11, 1909.
2. Samuel Edger, born July 13, 1893 died July 7, 1911.
3. Clyde, born March 27, 1896 died July 1, 1896.
4. Chester Dee, born Feb. 6, 1899, married Aug, 26, 1919 to Goldie Viola Pridemore born Nov. 22, 1902. Their children: Roy Earl, Leslie Elster, Lonnie Clyde, Chester Crockett (Bob) and John Phillip.
5. Della Mae, born Oct. 25, 1900, married Sept. 1, 1918 to Earl Elven Cheatham, born Feb. 20, 1898. Their children: Ida Mae, Loetta, Elven Flavous, Vol Melven, Clyde Crockett, John Frank, Pouline Ruth, Mary Margaret, Frances Marie, Ima Helen, Jackie Lee and Flossie Louise.
6. Thomas Walter, born July 28, 1902, married Dec. 29, 1927 to Mary Turnbow, born Jan. 1911. Their children: Delta Faye and Carol Frances.
7. John Elbert, born Aug. 12, 1904, married March 4, 1926 to Ruth Trostle. No children.
8. Bert, born Aug. 27, 1907, married Nov. 28, 1928 to Eva Ree Carter, born Aug. 19, 1908. Their children: Harold Lee, Paul Dean, Eva Marie and Linda Louise.
9. Delma Louise, born Jan. 2, 1910, married Nov. 10, 1926 to William Terry (Bill) Curteman, born Dec. 4, 1904. Their children: Wanda Louise and Betty Jane.
10. Lonnie Fred, born July 28, 1914.
11. Eunice Marie, born Jan. 22, 1918, married Walter Rich.

THOMAS LAFAYETTE SNODGRASS

Born Jan. 4, 1863 in Tennessee. Married to John Dee Nunley. Their children:

1. William Henry, born Sept. 28, 1886. Unmarried.
2. Mary Lena (May), born Dec. 2, 1887, married to Isom Hurney Sanders. Their children: Opal and Maude.
3. Bessie Lou, born July 10, 1890, married George Marous Cheatham. Their children: Hazel Mae, Doris Dee, Thomas Elwyn and Olive Bernice.
4. Unnamed, born and died July 10, 1890. (Bessie Lou's Twin).
5. Winnie Ray, born July 3, 1892, married May 18, 1913, Leonard Roy Rainwater. Their children: Roy Leon and Imogene.
6. Samuel Denver, born Feb. 13, 1894, married Ruth Katherine Corley. Their children: Thomas Keith and Frances Dee.
7. Homer Lawson, born Jan. 18, 1896, married Rubie Etta Nurray. Their children: Louise Maurine, Homer Jr., Mae Dee and Mary Etta.
8. Claude Miller, born Feb. 16, 1898, married Versa O'Neil. No children.
9. Florence Pearl, born Feb. 7, 1900, married Loren Rudolph Collins. Their children: Hoyt Rudolph, Lorene Avis and Glenn.
10. Charles Thomas, born Feb. 20, 1902, died April 20, 1904.

11. Elsie Nora, born April 4, 1905, married Robert Herman Pasley. No children.
12. Bruce Berry, born June 25, 1908, married Ruth Irene Lilly. No children.
13. Anna Moriel, born Nov. 16, 1910, married James Ernest Leach. One child, Elsie Ernestine.

MARTHA ALICE SNODGRASS

Born June 1, 1865, died in 1873.

JAMES WILLIAM SNODGRASS JR.

Born Nov. 18, 1866. Married Oct. 13, 1912 to Mary Etta Little born March 9, 1888. Their children:

1. William Ambrose, born Sept. 14, 1913. Unmarried.
2. Winnie Geneva, born Nov. 23, 1914, married July 22, 1939 to William Henry (Bill) McCratick. Their children: Roy Dean and Dorothy Louise.
3. Delphia T., born Dec. 22, 1915, married April 16, 1933 to Floyd Lowe. Their children: Marvin Floyd and Kenneth Leon.
4. Lizzie Ruth, born Feb. 10, 1917, married July 15, 1939 to Samuel Jones. Their children: Donald Wayne, Carol Faye and Waymond Alvin.
5. Wilson Lafayette, born Oct. 29, 1918, married Sept. 8, 1938 to Josephine Gardener, divorced. Remarried May 24, 1952 to Pauline Davis. No children.
6. Clara B., born Sept. 19, 1920, married May 26, 1938 Alfred Raymond Risley, born May 7, 1919. Their children: Harold Dean born July 4, 1939, married June 14, 1958, Virginia Alice Winn; Frances Louise Risley, born Aug. 29, 1940, married April 21, 1965 to Cecil Blackwood; John Raymond born Oct. 28, 1942, married April 24, 1972 to Charlene Redfern; Jerry Eugene born Nov. 21, 1948.
7. Leonard Eldon, born Oct. 28, 1922, married Thelma (Cindy) Green. Their children: Donna Kaye and Sandra Jean.
8. Annie Janette, born Jan. 5, 1925, married June 18, 1943, to Cyrus Harding Green. Their children: Betty Lou, Bobby Darril, Kennethe Dale, Linda Sue, Dennis Ray and Randy Eugene.
9. Emmette Allen, born Oct. 22, 1926, died July 19, 1948.
10. Dorothy Mae, born April 17, 1929, married June 14, 1948 to Olin Franklin (Billy) Holland. Their children: Sherron Voiline and Lois Fern. Divorced. Married second, Jess Flanary.
11. Mildred Berniece, born Feb. 23, 1932, married Jan. 5, 1951, to Wayne W. Cheatham. Died Jan. 9, 1954. Their children: Sherall Wayne and Lagena Kay.

GEORGE WASHINGTON SNODGRASS

Born March 15, 1868 died Feb. 24, 1933.

AMANDA FLORENCE SNODGRASS

Born Dec. 15, 1869, married Jan. 15, 1888 to Ulysses Grant Hargrove. Their children:

1. William Chester, born Dec. 19, 1888, died March 30, 1963.
2. Gertrude Louise, born Jan. 1, 1891, married July 23, 1911 to William Ray Rodgers. Their children: William Grant and Woody Ray.
3. Ola Agusta, born Oct. 28, 1893, married July 5, 1913 to Y. J. Manous. Their children: Harry and Florence Etta.
4. Myrtle, born Nov. 28, 1895, married Aug. 30, 1916 to Joseph Peter Reed. Their son: Guy Allen.
5. John Stanley, born June 15, 1898, married Dec. 21, 1919 to Kate Mary Padgett. Their children: William Haward, Helen Louise, Alice Ruth and Mary Lynn.
6. Vol Walker, born July 17, 1900, married Jan. 15, 1938 to Anith Rickard. No children.
7. Lillian Irene, born Nov. 3, 1903, married Nov. 26, 1925 to Earl Rhea. Their children: Jack and Don Earl.
8. Ella Mabel, born Jan. 29, 1905, married July 31, 1924 to Lloyd Woods. Their children: Wanda Maxine and Vol Calvin. Married second, July 12, 1927, William Curteman.
9. Mary Gladys, born Dec. 14, 1906, married in 1924 to Roy Taylor. Their children: James Ray and Vernon Joe. Married second in 1935 to James Cyrus Reese. Her children took the name Reese.
10. U. G. Jr., born March 26, 1913, married 1938 to Esther ——.

WINNIE LOU SNODGRASS

Born July 29, 1872, married Aug. 23, 1891 to John William Rauch. Their children:

1. Clifford, born June 24, 1892, married Grace James.
2. William Harvy, born Oct. 3, 1893, died March 8, 1919.
3. Sue Anna, born Nov. 14, 1894, died Nov. 23, 1894.
4. Hardy, born Oct. 12, 1895, married to Jennette Hicks. Their children: William Hardy, Winifred Joan and John Joseph.
5. Leonard Charles, born Feb. 12, 1897, married Guyla Holcroft. No children.
6. Ewing Henry, born Feb. 1, 1899, married Aug. 24, 1922, Merle Corinne Lucy. Their children: Ewing Henry Jr. and William Thomas.
7. Clyde, born Sept. 21, 1900, married Nov. 21, 1931 to Hope Leach. Their children: Mary Ellen, Virginia Lou and Clyde Leon.
8. Lizzie Mae, born June 4, 1902, married Aug. 12, 1926 to Alvin Decalb Norwood. Their children: Barbara Jean and Donald Lloyd.
9. Amanda Ruth, born Sept. 25, 1903, married Nov. 5, 1921 to Woods Lambert Mallow. Their children: Woodie Lambert, Gloria Hortense,

Elizabeth Louise, Charles Ludlow, Winnie Ruth, Shirley Maxine, Beverly Jo, Milton Boyd, Meredith Anna and Marilyn Sue.

10. John Thomas, born Jan. 14, 1905, married Oct. 29, 1929 to Doris Tyson. One daughter, Gloris.
11. Ella B., born Oct. 3, 1906, married May 17, 1929 to John England Mitchell. One daughter, Mary Elizabeth.
12. Harry Paul, born Aug. 31, 1907, married Sept. 21, 1949 to Marjorie Ellen Wallace Nott. Their children: Virgil Wayne and Paula Jean.
13. Unnamed, born Aug. 31, 1907, died at birth.
14. Frank Ray (Jack), born Feb. 21, 1909, married in 1936 Roberta Rowene Cook. Their children: Jacquelyn and Janice Lee. Married second Dec. 20, 1949 to Mary Katherine Wicks. Their children: Sarah Lillian, Christopher Dale, Jennifer Darlene and Cecile Ray.
15. Albert Cecil, born June 6, 1914, married to Dorothy Helen Bruce. Died Sept. 20, 1966. One daughter, Sherri Helen.
16. Elbert Ceiburn, born June 6, 1914, died at birth.
17. Helen Louise, born March 25, 1916, married in 1937 to Howard Edwin Belchamber. Their children: Daniel Edwin, John, Howard William, Jack Lee, Judith Anna and Jimmy Carl.

ELNORA (NOTE) SNODGRASS

Born Aug. 9, 1875, married Oct. 1, 1892 to Louis Bruner Hawes. Their children:

1. William Warner, born Aug. 25, 1893, married Enia Smith, one child; married second, Winnie M. Hicks, one son; married third, Elizabeth (Bessie) Young, one son.
2. Elmer Carl (Darby), born March 1, 1896, married Grace Eurpp
3. Lloyd, born Dec. 18, 1898, married in 1922 to Nancy Hale. One son.
4. Taska Mattie, born March 3, 1900, married Ben Rodgers.
5. Lucille, born Aug. 17, 1902, married Telford Thomason. Their children: Tommie Lou and Jerry.
6. Vol Leo, born Dec. 14, 1908, married Irene Rodgers. Their children: Patsy, Voline and Jimmy.
7. Ola Marie, born Feb. 18, 1912, married Harold Copeland. Their children: Shirley, Deloris and Judy.

EMMA D. SNODGRASS

Born Jan. 1, 1878, married Nov. 9, 1896 to Orine A. Davis. Their children:

1. Charles, born Aug. 10, 1897, died Nov. 4, 1897.
2. Fred, born May 23, 1899, died June 6, 1940.
3. Allen Harley, born April 21, 1901, married Emma Florence Biehn. Their children: Dale Allen and Gordon Earl.
4. Gertie, born Aug. 8, 1903, died Nov. 19, 1903.

5. Irene, born Dec. 15, 1904, died July 4, 1927.
6. John, born March 12, 1907, married Rosaline Miller. One child.
7. Lester, born Feb. 20, 1912, died Aug. 1, 1959.
8. Harry, born Jan. 30, 1918.

ANNA AUGUSTA SNODGRASS

Born Nov. 20, 1879, married to James Frances Marion Collins. Their children:

1. Rose Beda, born Oct. 1894, died in 1903.
2. George Garvin, born April 6, 1896, married Lawa Ruth Yeager. Their children: Alford Vernon and Grady Garvin.
3. William Frank, born Jan. 1898, died Sept. 9, 1899.
4. Earl Alexander, born July 30, 1900, married Dec. 29, 1930 to Lois Arlene Gier. Their children: Helen Maxine, Nell Jean, Kenneth Earl and Jerry Rollins.
5. Samuel Oren, born Jan. 21, 1902, married Oct. 25, 1935, Merle Elizabeth Yeager. Their children: Norman Leo and Ora Nadean.
6. Lewis Lafayette, born April 7, 1904, married July 16, 1937, Melba Masters. One son.
7. Corene Gertrude, born Aug. 1, 1905, married June 11, 1927 to William Emmette Trostle. Their children: Dorothy Pauline, Anna Louise, William Emmette Jr., Franklin Donald, Frances Laverne Helen and Douglas Eugene.
8. Lizzie Pearl, born Dec. 18, 1906, married Nov. 30, 1924 Irl Walker Angell. Their children: Wayne Gerald, Bobby Keith and Garvin Lee.
9. John T. Henes, born May 7, 1908, died Oct. 9, 1917.
10. Paul Chester, born Feb. 22, 1911, married Feb. 14, 1942 Fern Pauline Kieborz. Their children: Richard Paul, Dale Eugene, Cheryl Mae and Katheryn Darlene.
11. Iva Merle, born Aug. 7, 1912, married Dec. 30, 1929 James Edward Parks. Their children: James Edward Jr., Joanna Jane and Rosie Merle.
12. Hester Barbara, born March 13, 1915, died Dec. 20, 1924.
13. Maggie Louise, born Sept. 29, 1917, married Aug. 31, 1934 Ed Cranmer. Their children: Duane Neal, Phyllis Jean, Ivon Edward, James Dennis and Samuel Lee.
14. James Henry, born Sept. 19, 1919, died Feb. 6, 1962.
15. Dorothy Marie, born Nov. 25, 1921, married Aug. 20. 1938 George Alfred Stanley. Their children: Betty Jo, Carol Ann, Jackie and George (twins), David Ray and Randll Lee.

Mrs. Clara Risley, Route 1, Lincoln, Ark. 72744 has more records on this family in book form. The book may be purchased from Mrs. Risley for $5.00.

Our Readers Write

I am very pleased and impressed with the new look of FLASHBACK. It is easy to read, informative and particularly, we shall be able to preserve them and share them for a longer period of time.

I have answered queries concerning Walker, Wilson and Cantrell families of Washington County and surrounding areas and have received much information. Also have been able to share my Bible, census and family records with many others and it is very rewarding. Thank you again for helping so many in searching family history and my deep appreciation for the work you all do to make it easier for us.

Mrs. Ruth Rodgers Rudy

Enjoyed Ruth Holt Payne's story as well as the entire contents of FLASHBACK. Hope you can print Wickwire (Bug Scuffle) Cemetery list.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hilton

FLASHBACK is a source of pleasure to me and I do appreciate the tremendous amount of work being done by those responsible for its publication. Harold Henson.

The new FLASHBACK is beautiful. Have you ever thought of offering binders of the "keep forever" type. Loretta Craig.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks to Mrs. Craig for this suggestion and we will certainly investigate the possibilities. Mrs. Craig is researching the ENYART, TRAMMELL, JETT and FLETCHER families of Washington County.

Dr. Caldeen Gunter of Siloam Springs has presented his 10-year collection of FLASHBACK to me, hoping to enlarge my wisdom for editing the Benton County Historical Society "PIONEER". Dr. Gunter especially enjoyed the August 1972 issue with the SMA centennial story. He is a grand nephew of Congressman T. M. Gunter of Fayetteville. T. M. Gunter built a mill on Sager Creek here in Hico, Siloam Springs, about 1878. Mrs Melvin Smith, Editor, Benton County Pioneer.

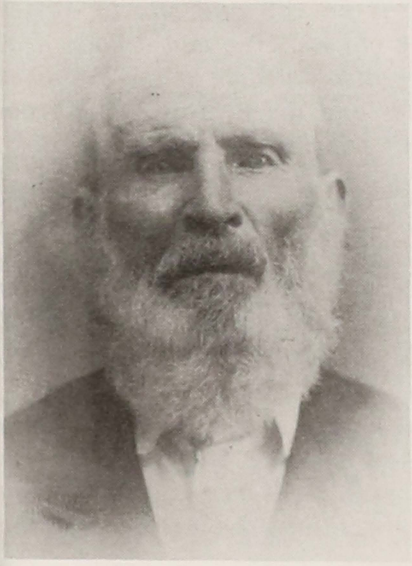
(EDITOR'S NOTE: A very thoughtful Mrs. Smith sent the WCHS a xerox copy of the minutes of the 35th anniversary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention held with the Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Nov. 3-7 1883. We appreciate her kindness and will be using exerpts from this in future FLASHBACKS.)

Some Pyeatt Letters

On April 16, 1849 the first California Gold Rush Party from Northwest Arkansas left Fayetteville and letters written by J. Rankin Pyeatt on the journey have been preserved by his descendants.

The date the party left Fayetteville was made a matter of record by James H. Van Hoose who recalled later that the party from White River came to Fayetteville on Sunday and it snowed and they departed the next day.

The party has variously been said to be composed of nearly 90 to 120 members but Pyeatt says it had 123 men, three women, two boys and one old man. One of the "boys" was his own son Andrew, who died and was buried at sea on the return trip by way of Panama. (See Lemke, Northwest Arkansas in the California Gold Rush Flashback, Vol. XIV, No. 1, p. 9-16, Jan. 1964.)



John Rankin Pyeatt

The ten letters (from April 28, 1849 - Sept. 26, 1850) were written by Pyeatt to his wife Elizabeth (Buchanan) Pyeatt and their three children.

These letters were preserved by a granddaughter, Mrs. Kate Patterson Moore. After her death they were given to a niece, Mrs. Rita Patterson Howard of Fort Smith. Mrs. Howard has given them to the University of Arkansas where the originals are in the Special Collections Section.

John Rankin Pyeatt was born in Kentucky in 1805. He came with his parents to Arkansas Post, and later to Crystal Hill (near Little Rock) in 1812. In 1827 he came to Washington County and erected the first frame house built in that section. It is situated about a mile above the present village of Cane Hill (and still standing in 1973). In 1831 he married Elizabeth Buchanan and they became the parents of four children.

He, like many pioneers, had many skills. He could make a fine piece of furniture, could go into a blacksmith shop and make what he wanted at a forge. He was a good farmer and knew the milling business from

beginning to end. The Pyeatt mill was by a spring at the foot of the hill and the house was built on top of the same hill, because of the fear of the mosquitos which had so troubled them near Little Rock.

Twelve days after the party left Fayetteville Pyeatt is writing to his wife from Indian Territory, April the 28, 1849. In some cases punctuation has been added to make the letters easier to read, but other than that they are published as written:

Dier Companion

We have crossed the Virdigre (Verdigris River) this day and drove out six miles in the prairie and will remain hear till Monday morning. We have gotten along very well so far thow (though) we hav had som(e) bad luck. We have (lost) A. B. Crawford's mair (mare). We lost hir the second nite after we lef (left) the rendeveus (rendezvous). She is stolen no dout by the Cherokees. We will rite to Ross (Chief John Ross) at the Grand Saline (Saline) to git hir if he can and rite to James Crawford and he can go and get her if he chuses. We had a good deal of work to do on the banks of the Virdigre, also on some of the branches in the prairie. We have now got into hier and drier prairie and from the best information we can get (it) will continue to the mountains.

Our teams stand it very well yet, the most of them mend. Our company numbers 40 *wagons, and* 123 *men, able to bair (bear) on well, three women, two boys and one old man. We are all well at present. James Carnahan has had the dieree (diarrhea) and was very sick a day or two, but has got well and A. B. Crawford had the bowel complaint and has got well. All so some others of the company here had it all so, but all have got well that I know of.*

The boys was very much diverted last night. A company of Osages that camped close to us last night and had a dance that tickled them very much. The boys are all in fine spirits. S. B. Marrs is giting along very well, he is hearty and mending. He thinks he will stand the (trip) very well.

I had forgot to tell you that James Carnahan's mair got away from him nite before last, run back some twelve miles to our camp, the night before where some of our company met hir and cot (caught) hir just before James and Porter (H. Porter Pyeatt is on the list, but relationship to J. R. P. is not indicated) *overtook hir and brot hir back, which took them till night to overtake the company again.*

Nothing more at present but remain your affectionate companion till death.

John R. Pyeatt

To Elizabeth Pyeatt

It was at this stop apparently just before this stop, at Grand Saline that the 130 members of the party which included Cherokees and others elected officers. Lewis Evans of Evansville was named captain; Thomas Tyner first lieutenant and a second Washington County man, Peter Mankins, second lieutenant. James S. Vann who gave up being editor of the Cherokee Advocate to join the gold seekers was elected secretary and Martin Matthew Schrimsher, both of the Cherokee Nation, commissary. (The party was equipped with 40 wagons and ten times as many oxen and mules according to Foreman's Marcy and the Gold Seekers p. 68).

Noted here also is the difficulty in crossing the Verdigris because of the steep west bank. The entertainment by the band of Osage Indians who gave an exhibition of their dancing is also noted.

The party reached the Santa Fe Trail on May 12 at a point on Turkey Creek and at the junction of the two trails they set up a large stone upon which they engraved "To Fayetteville, Ark. 300-milles--Capt. Evans Com'y. May 12, 1849. (See Flashback Vol. IX, No. 2, May 1959) for two letters written by Judge Hiram Davis a member of the company).

A disagreement arose with some of the party wanting to continue on a course to the Platte River and travel over the Oregon Road, others wanted to follow the Santa Fe Trail to Fort Bent. The majority favored the Fort Bent route and on May 27 O. W. Lipe reported they averaged 20 miles per day. On May 29 they arrived at Fort Mann, which had been abandoned the year before.

Dissention persisted and near Pueblo they divided. One group going north instead of continuing with the party to Santa Fe.

Judge Davis felt that by the time they reached Pueblo the company was united and harmonious and seems to be of "one mind to accomplish one grand object and that is to make our way to California this season with the teams in time too to lay up of gold enough to last us through the rainy season." His opinion wasn't shared by Pyeatt when he wrote Elizabeth from Pueblo. The letter, dated June 20th 1849, Pueblo, Arkansas River was addressed to Elizabeth Pyeatt, Cane Hill, Washington, Cty., Ark. "By the favor of Thomas Tiner."

Dier Companion, thru the blessing of God I again have the opportunity to rite to you. We arrived hear day before yesterday in good helth and our teams in good order. We have had a plesant trip so far, much more than I anticipated. We have had no bad luck since I wrote to you last. We have traveled about from 100 *to* 120 *miles a week for some time past and our teams a mending all the time. We are hear repairing some of the wagons that the dry weather has shrunk up so the tire had to be cut and welded. We will start tomorrow morning, I think,*

for the South Pass by the way of St. Vrain's Fort to intersect the Independence Road near the South Pass finding that there is a good rout throu that way and that we couldn't git through the mountain strait to the Salt Lake hear.

A good many of our company got discouraged and will, some turn back, and some sell, or rather give away, thear load and wagons and pack through, nearly the same way that the wagon will go, with the exception of 200 *or* 300 *miles, on which they will gain some* 75 *or* 100 *miles.*

They have become afraid about the grass being eat up on Independence rout. They think we will fall in behind the large trains that are on that rout and those individuals that live hear, taking advantage of the times, have told them that the grass is very scarce any how through that way, and that we cannot git through this season with our oxen. They do this to get our wagons and teams and loads for a pony or two. Thear are other individuals that we have seen that more know the route as well and perhaps better than they do, that say that grass is plenty and that we can git through this season. Those men's sons are on the route now piloting a company through from Santifee (Santa Fe). They left this morning. They came by the way of Fort Smith and there they left thear wagons for they could not git through that way with thear wagons and could not git hear with them easy and this being the best way even from Santifee. Those individuals left Fort Smith the first of April with mule teams. They all so say that there are thousands at Santifee with ox teams and can't git any further for they can't buy mules. They sell from one to two hundred dollars apiece. Though those individuals that live hear have axcomplished thear ends by discouraging our men, since I commencet this letter thear has a man come into our camp that is well acquainted with all the country between hear and the Sault Lake and he says that he can ride it in 15 *days, it being only about five or six hundred miles and we can git through very easy with very little work and will have plenty of wood, water and grass. This man we will hire for a pilot if we can, but he has a family and property that he says that he cannot leave on account of the Youtaw (Utah) indians, they being at war with the Whites and Spanyards and will steal his property, he is afraid if he leaves. This man has been recommended to us as knowing more about the country than any man in this country, but at the same time we was told that we could not git him for the reasons above mentioned, and we did not go to see him. Had we went to see him before our men had let thear wagons and teams go I think they would not have let them go, but it was too late before he come to camp. I am in hopes that we can git him yet by paying him well though he has not said so. I have no dout but what we have come*

the best route that we could have come and that we will git to California in good time, though some of our company thinks not and are going back and no dout will tell monstis (monstrous) tales to justify themselves in going back.

This I mention that you may not be uneasy about us, if I tot otherwise I would have told you so. This you may know by my letters last winter. I do not flatter you without a cause. We will not be able to git the guide I spoke of last night but we have got such directions that I think we will have no difficulty in gitting through.

All our Cane Hill friends are a-going to pack but me and the Carnahan boys, Marrs and (James) Pierce, I would have written more full than I have but time forbids. Since we come hear I have bin so busy working on the wagons and shoeing horses that I could not git time and now I am finishing my letter while the wagons are setting, ready to start and all in confusion, a matter of course, and more so on this occasion as we are leaving our friends in the wilderness. They will not start before tomorrow or next day.

One word more and I am done, that is Andrew has the name of being the best boy in the company. He is very attentive to bisness and his helth is very good. This is the case with all the company without exception as far as I know. May the Lord Bless you and children and support you in all your trials and difficulties is my sincear prair (prayer). Give my love and respects to all inquiring friends.

John R. Pyeatt

To Elizabeth Pyeatt

It was nearly two months later before Pyeatt had an opportunity to write to his wife again. His letter addressed from Salt Lake, Cal. he paid 10 cents to have delivered to Mrs. Elizabeth Pyeatt, Washington County, Boonsboro, Arkansas State:

California August the 12*th* 1849

Dier Companion, Children and friends, by the blessing of God we are all well at this time and hope these lines will find you all enjoying the same blessing. Since I last rote to you we have had some troble (that is) not very sciryes (serious). We have had considerable Sickness. We all continued well till we got near the North fork of the Platt (Platte) when Mathis (J. M. Matthews?) got lost from the train and lay out in the Snowy mountains in his shirt sleaves, after which he had a severe spell of sickness with many others myself not exempt. My Andrew, John Kellam (J. P. Kellam?), James Carnahan and John Carnahan are all of our mess that has not been sick more or less since we left the Arkansas river. Many others of the Company has been

sick all so. Capt. Evans is sick at this time. The reason so many of us has bin sick I will give you on another page.

We are now within 45 *miles of the Salt Lake where the Mormons live and we travel from* 17 *to* 23 *miles a day. This road throu(gh) the mountains is worse hear than any part of our journey. We have bin in the road since Monday evening last. The last week we traveled* 110 *miles and rested one-half day to repair a broken wagon. You will inquir why we are not further along than we are. I will try to tell you.*

From Pueblo to St. Vrain on the south fork of the Platte, a distance of 140 *miles, we had good road and down the Platte to the mouth of another stream that runs in on the other side of the Platte* 17 *miles, we had a(n) old trail. We had to go below the mouth of this stream to avoid having to ferry it and the Platte both being swiming. We made a ferry boat at St. Vrain's ft. (fort) out of plank that are found there (the fort being deserted for sometime back) and took it down to the crossing. This boat was large enough to carry the largest of our wagons without unloading them. When we were done crossing we drew the boat out on the north side of the river and left it for the benefit of the men that should come along this road. This took us* 4 *days. We sout (set) out from this place without road, trail of guide through the plains and hills. We succeeded well, from* 15 *to* 20 *miles a day, for sometime untill we got within some* 40 *or* 50 *miles of the North Fork of the Platte when the hills became worse and we had to detain more times hunting out the rout(e) and working it. However, we got along very well till we got to the North Fork of the Platte. Hear Mathis (Matthews?) and Porter were both sick. Mathis had to be hauled in a wagon. Porter was obliged to ride on horseback. We got to this stream on Saturday evening and, intending to spend the Sabbath here, but oing (owing) to hevy clouds that lay up the river we became afraid the river would rize and it being scarcely fordeable we hitched up and crossed the river on Sunday evening, having a party out, looking out the route (who) returned on Sunday evening to guide us on to the next camping place here. We sout out to cross the divide between the Atlanttic and the Pasiffic next day.*

The ballance of our men returned and reported that we cound (could) not git through for the lack of water and grass. We then turned north down the Platte for the road near fhe South Pass, and travelled one day. The Captain not being willing to give up the rout, across to Green River stopped the train and took men to look the route further himself. The Captain returned in the night having foun(d) water and grass a suitable distance for camp, having sent the other two men on to look out another place for camping.

When the Capt. returned he found a part of the company determined to go to the South Pass any how and a part of them, being con-

California November the 11th 1849

Dear Companion Children and Friends

I again inform you of our situation we are all well and hope this will find you injoying the same blessing we have had very little sickness since we left the Salt ~~Lake~~ Lake John Carnahan has bin Sick Since he was taken Son after we got through the first desert and was sick for Som time he is now well as any of us thear has bin some little Sickness with the rest of us such as bowl complaints thow not very bad with many of us this is a desese that the Emigrants that com by land are subject too and many of them die with it when they git hear early in the season and go to the Sityes where the weather is so warm after crossing the mountains where it is so cold all the time this is too great a change this bring on this disease those coming early in the season Should not run to the rivers and towns and stay thear any length of time till they git Climated but stay near the mountain till cool weathe comes we are camped one mile and half South of the Cosumnes river about thirty miles South East of the City of Sacrement to this city is situated at Suters Fort on the Sacrements this is the greatest place for bisness in the wall to its adge I am told it comenced this last Spring and it is called a city now this place dos as much bisness as St Louis I am told by those acquainted with both places I think from what I saw my self that thear must be sailly to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars per day and something like one half of that don in tents for the want of houses the materials cant be got hear fast enough for the demand to make houses. We landed on the Cosumnes river about 4 miles from this place on the 22th day of Oct and after resting our teams a week we took one wagon to the city to git provision after I had lost and paid for my load I had about 135 dollars left in my saddle baggs which has not bin heard of since it was stolen out of the wagon with my pistol and Som half dozen letters that was roten by the boys to be sent home and I finding it would be a month before they would leave the city the mail being monthly and it just Started the day before we got thear so I did not leave them

nected with others that did not want to go that way, he thot best to go with them one day further to let them settle thear bisness for a division of the company leaving those men to come back and follow our trail. This they done but did not overtake us for two days.

We went on that day with the expection (expectation) of a separation next morning, but to our surprise they would not leave us and continued with us to Green River (thear a portion left us, being in some 12 miles of the road) when we star(ted) from this camp we had no camp picked out, and being thrown off our course we went on to intersect our course again and that night we had to camp at a Salt lake without any fresh water only what we had in our caggs (kegs) (this lake is called Bitter Lake by the mountainiers). This water had a poisonous affect on man and beast and hear the company lost three oxen that died, and many others that was sick for days that they was not fit for service. In a word, every animal on the train was affected with it more or less. One of the Carnahan boys' best oxen was left hear being one of the 3 that was lost by the lake.

Our rout now lays through dry land region and dry loose dirt and very ineaving (uneven) that made it very hard pooling (pulling) and all the water that we got was very bad. One night we lay without water entirely for our animals. We ourselves had some in our caggs. We travelled on next day, the most of the men without a drop of water till in the evening, say one o'clock all the men out huntin' water that had horses to ride, when one of the men that was afoot found water. Thos riding, returning and finding non(e). This water was from a heavy s(h)ower of rain that fell two days before and would not last more than 2 days longer. Had it not bin for this water we must have suffered considerable for we did not find any more till next night, some 18 or 20 miles further. Many of our company hear acknowledged that this water was sent by God for our bennifit. Thanks be to his name for the kind protection that he has afforded us from day to day. Hear in this desert we began to git sick, no doubt from having to drink so much bad water and cook our provision with a bitter s(h)rub that grows in abundance hear and is very troublesom(e) to travel through. (It is called artimitia or wild sage).

The weather has been very col(d). We had a smart frost night before last and last night we had ice. We have frost and ice frequently and was in sight of a considerable fall of snow about the last of June. It fell on the mountains one day about twelve o'clock and was plain to be seen the next day. We have not bin out of sight of snow for near two months, only when we were in some deep hollow. I have not seen an oxen's tongue out with heat since we left the Arkansas River, nor appear to be distressed with the heat. We had snow in our camp to eat

in July, brot from the mountains by the company. We all so camped one night, the last of July, within one-half mile of snow and ice. This will appear strange to you that we should be so near the snow and have grass, but this is the case in the vallies and on these snow mountains. Whear the snow is off thear is grass and one of our company says he was whear he could throw snow with one hand and pluck flowers with the other, the same time.

It has been universly (universally) the case that we found the best grass near the snow mountains all the best water, but, to return to our journey. We was near three weeks acrossing this divide which has hurt our animals worse than all the rest of the trip. When we got to Green River we rested 3 days. There put up the blacksmith tools and done some repairs on the wagons, having arrived on Thursday evening.

We got done our work on Saturday and Sunday the company started, all with the exception of five wagons. Our 2, the Carnahan boys', James and Andrew Crawford's and the Whoms (John M. Wham) and Enniston's boy wagons (Edmiston, A. E. and J. T.), We staid and enjoyed one quiet Sunday, the first since we left home for when we did not travel the day was spent shooting, washing, working of every description which made me all most dre(ad) to see the Sabbath come for fear that God would send some Judgment on the Company for thear wickedness, but thanks be to his name he has besto(w)ed blessings on the Company while they were profaining the Sabbath and taking his name in vain, but the Sabbath on Green River was spent differently. It was spent in sing(ing) the praise of His name that had protected us throug(h) this desert. Indeed this was a Sabbath of injoyment. It does my Soal good when I think of it. O! that all of our Sabbaths would be as pleasant as this one. We arose early on Monday and started for the road which was some 8 miles off but to save distance we traveled twelve before we reacheath (reached) it. A mile or 2 before we got to the road we come to aleven (eleven) of our wagons waiting for us. The Captin hear being unwilling to leave us and a portion of those wicked (w)retches was unwilling to stay so the captain gave them leave to go on and we have not seen them since. All and thanks be to God for thear departure for the bulk of them are of the lowest class of beings that ain't fit to live or die. They are the Cherokees and Fayetteville trash, such as North Cunningham (Dr. W. R. Cunningham?) Freshlain (there were five Freyschlags on the journey including three women) *and others of like stripe—altogether* 12 *wagons. They came on to Bridger's Fort and thear many of them got drunk on whiskey at* $1 *dollar a pint and uct up tall shines. Just as we got to the road one of our company died a man by the name of Nathen Tharp, a son-in-law of John Van Hoose of White River.* (John Van Hoose is listed as one of the gold seekers).

He has bin laboring under a disease from a child and this disease being aggravated by exposure and the bad water, no dout, shortened his life, thus we buried him the morning after we got to the road.

When we got to Bridger's Fort we heard of our pack boys. They were about 20 *days ahead of us. They left a letter for the captain thear. They had bad luck a-crossing Green River. They got one man drownded by the name of Gaven* (A James H. Gurin or Garvin is listed in the company) *and lost many of thear packs, saddles, bridles and gunns, stores* (*Mr*) *Tiner* (Thomas Tyner was first lieutenant of the company and an Aaron Tyner was also listed) *and the Morrow boys* (Hugh, James and William Morrow are listed) *lost all the money they had, between* $300 *and* $500 *dollars.*

They came on to Bridger and thear got provisions, saddles and other things they had need of at a very hy (*high*) *price. Some of thear horses had give out and the most of them looked bad so we were told. This Bridgers Fort is* 48 *miles from Green River and* 440 *miles from the South Fork of the Platte.* 36 *miles of this distance we have had a road and the balance we have had to make our own road, without trail or guide through mountains and plains. Thus you will see why we have bin so long gittin' hear but we are told that we have plenty of time to git thear yet. The only difficulty is the grass being eat out before us which we are informed cannot be. It is so plenty that it cannot fail. We have had plenty ever since we got to the road, of the very best. The grass in this country is much better than in Arkansas. It contains so much seed that it is almost equal to grain for cattle. Thear are a great many more emigrants on the road behind us. The number is said to be over one thousand wagons by good authority. I close my letter for the present for I can't mail it till I git to the Sault Lake at the Mormon town and probably I may have something more to rite thear.*

Mormon town, Sault Lake-August 16

We arrived hear yesterday about twelve o'clock after traveling over some of the worst roads that we have had yet and the dust was the worst I ever saw in my life, indeed it is hard to consieve of the like, unless you could have seen it, though I think we are mostly done with it for we had a fine rain today and it is probly that we will have a shower every week or so, so as to keep down the dust. We will start tomorrow for the gold diggin's. We have heard from them since we got hear that one man freckently makes $2.00 *a day. If this be the case we will make some, if we git thear and keep our health. We are all well at present but James Canrahan, he let the wagon run over his foot yesterday morning and hurt him very bad, so that he can't walk. Squire Marrs has bot a small wagon today for* $30.00 *worth* $80 *or* $100 *and has sold the body of his*

for $10. Whether he can sell the balance or not I don't (k)now. Wagons are worth nothing hear, thear are so many teams that has give out and the owners have sold them for little or nothing and packed through. I never seen the like of dead oxen in my life, we pass one every little bit and frequently several in sight of each other. This destruction is from the dust and hard driving, thus (w)hole trains all most have bin destroyed. Yet our teams hold out tolerable well. We hear many reports hear about the rout(e). The mormons tell us that we can't go through this season for a man has returned and sayes the grass is all eat up and burnt, and the oxen and horses are all starving to deth and many other such tails to get us to leave our wagons and b(u)y thear poneys and mules (a) nor (enormous) prices. Mules $200 to $250, Indian poneys $100 to $150. Thus they have made a harvest of the emigrants this year, but they can't come it over these boys. We understand them to well to be chiselded by them. It will not do for Emigrants to believe tails they hear.

For example, we hear the distance is from 1,350 miles to 868 to the gol'diggin's, thus the tails go. I think from the best information that we can get it will take us twenty-five or thirty days yet to get thear. If we go south of the lake not quite so long, as it is some 100 or 150 miles nier (nearer) but thear is a sault plain to go through, some 80 and some 45 miles that we will have to haul water and hay for our animals. We have not determined which route we will go yet. The captain is making inquiry at this time to know which route we had best go. What the result will be I do not know, thou(gh) I expect we will go South of the lake, but I must close my letter for I don't know when to quit riting. I would write as much more, but I don't know whether you will git it or not. So I close by asking the blessiny of God on you all and requesting your praiers for

John R. Pyeatt

I had forgot to tell you that Andrew has continued well all the time with the exception of slight headache a few times and is very attentive to bisness, more so than ever I saw a boy of his age in my life. I believe nothing more.

J.R.P.

Written across side of page five and last page: Andrew Crawford had had a catarrh on one of his hands but it has got well. It was very bad for some time.

It was three months later before Pyeatt was able to write again and he has reached the gold diggings. The letter, addressed to Elizabeth bears the post mark Sacramento, Nov. 23, Cal. and the numeral 40, apparently indicating the cost for mailing.

California, November 11, 1849

Dier Companion, children and Friends, I again inform you of our situation. We are all well and hope this will find you enjoying the same blessing. We have had very little sickness since we left Salt Lake. John Carnahan has been sick since he was taken soon after we got through the first desert and was sick for some time. He's now (as) well as any of us. Thear has bin some little sickness with the rest of us, such as bowel complaint, though not very bad. With many of us this is a disease that the Emigrants come by land are subject to and many of them die with it when they git hear early in the season and go to the cities whear the weather is so warm, after crossing the mountains whear it is so cold all the time. This is too great a change. This brings on this disease. Those coming early in the season should not run to the rivers and towns and stay thear any length of time till they git climented (acclimated) but stay near the mountains till cool weather comes.

We are camped one mile and half south of the Cosunines (Cosunmes) river about thirty miles southeast of the city of Sacramento. This city is situated at Sutter's Fort on the Sacramento. This is the greatest place for bisness in the world, for its age. I am told it commenced this last spring and it is called a city. Now this place does as much business as St. Louis, I am told, by those acquainted with both places. I think from what I saw myself that thear must be easily to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars per day and something like one half of that done in tents for want of houses. The materials can't be got hear fast enough for the demand to make houses. We landed on the Cosunmes river about 4 miles from this place on the 22th day of Oct. and after resting our teams a week we took one wagon to the city to get provisions.

After I had bot and paid for my load I had about $135 dollars left in my saddle baggs which has not bin heard of since. It was stolen out of the wagon with my pistol and some half dozen letters that were roten by the boys to be sent home and I, finding it would be a month before they would leave the city, the mail being monthly, and it just started the day before we got thear, so I didn't leave them and got them all stolen, together, for they were in the saddle baggs with the money. had seven pages roten myself and left to finish when I could git to the city. But I expect you are awaiting to hear how we got hear and what is our prospect of getting paid for our journey. I will try to tell you.

In the first (place) our troubles had not commenced when we got to Salt Lake. I wrote to you from the lake and I will not speak of our journey from thear back. We left the Mormon town on the 17th day of August and got to the desert on the 23th—64 miles hear—having cut grass in the time above mentioned and supplied ourselves with water. We started through the desert, 67 miles through the desert on the 2e,

and got a part of our wagons through on the 25th, leaving the rest of them in the desert, 21 miles from water and grass, our teams giving out from the hard pulling in the mud. We were obliged to double team and go out with half of our wagons. After gitting our teams to the grass and resting a day, we again cut grass and took one wagon back to haul the grass and water. This was the Carnahan's boys wagon. We having made arrangements with them to join with them and leave our big wagon in the desert. This we done putting the load in thear wagon and come out in two days more.

We got all of our oxen out (but some of them has bin of very little use to us since, though we have got them, all but one, to this place). Thear were many of the company that did not get thear oxen out of the desert. Having rested again, in a few days we started to take the next desert 25 or 26 miles, through. The company leaving us one day before with the Crawford boys and one other wagon, making in all five wagons and was to wait for us at the next water and grass but this they did not do. As it being Saturday when we got thear, and they knowing we would want to rest on the Sabbath and they, as I believe, wanting to compel us to travel on Sunday, being now in the midst of the Indians and they a-stealing everything they could (but I had forgotten to tell you that we had left everything that we thought we could do without after we got through the big desert and put oxen to the little wagon, the horses having given out) but we rested on the Sabbath, thus falling behind the company two days. The one wagon, spoken of above, left us having but 4 wagons and 22 men. We set out on Monday and got on very well through the week till Friday night when we got within 5 or 6 miles of the company. Hear the Indians stole three horses and one mule from us. Some of them being tied close to the tents. The horses they stole was (not possible to decipher) *a mare of Bob Epperson and the mule I got from Calb. The mule they brot back next day and I think that we could have gotten the rest of them if our little company had all been together, but all the boys that could be spared from the wagons were hunting the stolen horses. Thus we found it necessary to overtake the company again and stay with it. This we done that night. We then got along tolerable well. The company would not wait for us to go back to try to git our horses but started again on Sunday. (I mention this circumstance to show the necessity of a company starting to know what sort of leaders they have and not put those in that has a name to live while they are dead in trespasses and sins). We got to the road on the 12th of Sept., 193 miles from the desert, hear we found the grass from that on to near the sink of the Humbolt River, a distance of 244 miles. Hear we found plenty of grass. The grass is confined to the river bottoms and in small bodies so that the large body of emigrants that had past before us had consumed the grass*

almost entirely so that our teams had to live mostly on willow bushes. This being all most the only shrub on this stream, for it does not deserve to be called a river.

We got to the sink on the 29th. Hear resting and cutting grass for the next desert, a distance of 43 miles. We started and before we got through we had to leave our wagons and go to water and grass, some two miles from the road. The last part of the desert, some 12 miles was deep Sand and very hard pulling. Hear the Carnahan boys left thear wagon. Having now but one little wagon we were compelled to leave everything but provisions to do us through and our clothing, one tent and a few of our tools. Hear we left our trinket boxes, in a word, we left everything of the kind but my trunk, it being the lightest. We took it to keep our little things in and went on to Carson River.

The company hear left us again in the desert, we, however, overtook them again in a few days, but the Crawford boys' oxen had given out and they could not go on without help so we staid and rested a day and helped them along. The company leaving us again and we did not overtake them any more. We got to Carson River on the 3th of Oct.

We then had good grass to the mountain, a distance of 102 miles. We got to the mountains on the 10 of Oct. We crossed the Sumit on the 4th day after we started up it. This is the worst mountain that I ever saw. Many places it looked like it was impassible for wagons to git along. While we were crossing the summit the wind blew, all most like a tornado, it had like to have taken one of our wagons off, but by locking both wheels and (by) the help of the oxen we saved it from going over and down a bluff. The wind blew several of the men down so that they had to hold to rocks to save themselves. All so some of the weak oxen were blown down but none hurt. Thear had bin some snow before we crossed the mountain. It fell to the depth of 6 or 8 inches, it is said by those that were on the mountain at the time. It had melted out of our way before we got thear and we had very pretty weather all (but) the wind above spoken of and that did not last long so bad. The weather on the mountain was clear and pleasant during the day and the nights was cold with heavy frosts, ice freezing over one and a half inches thick. After we had got over the summit of the mountain one day's travel, we met a government train of oxen that was a-going to help those that needed help and the Crawford boys got 2 yoke from them. This helped us as much as them, for we had to let them have from 2 to 4 oxen all the time to git them along and then they could hardly git a long.

We got to the gold mines on the 20th of Oct. (75 miles across the mountains) and on the 22th Oct. we got to Cosumnes River, three or four miles from this place. I had forgotten to tell you that Capt. Evans had two horses stolen, James Crawford one and one or two more, all

stolen one night on the Humbolt River. I have now done with the past.

We have bilt us a cabin for to winter in and have dug some gold though we have done but little at that bisness yet.We have a pore place for mining. I think though, we can make a little over expenses by mining. We had not time to hunt a good place. This place is the highest to where we could git provisions and we had obliged to stop. In two weeks we have dug gold, bilt a cabin, hunted deer and moved 4 miles. In all, made by diggin' and selling venison to the Indians—35 ounces of gold. We have killed 21 deer, sold them from $5 to $23 a piece. If this bisness would keep up this will be a better bisness during the winter than mining for there is so much rain it has bin raining 2 or 3 days a week for weeks and the ground is very muddy in places. When I say we I mean ourselves, that started together and the Carnahan boys, S. B. Marrs and James Pierce and the Crawford boys are with us, but we keep our concerns seperate as far as mining and hunting is concerned. The Carnahan boys and us have united together for the winter, if not longer. We all work together and eat together and divide the spoil together.

I think that we can make from 2 to 3 ounces a piece a week, say we work only half our time during the winter, with what we can do killing deer and selling to the Indians. This is called doing a pore bisness by those that are mining. The most of them will not work if they cannot make one ounce a day and many of them make doubble and thrible that, but we must be content with what we can git through the winter.

The best mines are in too cold a place to work in the winter or so far from provisions that we can't git their till Spring. If we could git provisions from the city we could do a good bisness selling bread to the Indians. They will give any price for bread. I sold 6 small burnt biscuits for 2 dollars, but we can't haul (flour) or git it hauled for the road is gitting so muddy that teams can't haul anything. I don't believe that we could git hauling done for much less than fifty dollars a hundred and the flower (flour) would cost from 16 to 18 dollars a hundred. Pork is selling from forty to sixty dollars per barrel; vegetables of every kind is very high; rice is the cheapest article that I have seen, it sells from 10 to 12½ cts. per pound; sugar 20 cts; molasses $1.50 cts per gallon; beef 12½ cts per pound; common labor is from 5 to 10 dollars a day and plank is five hundred dollars a thousand feet.

This is the best bisness that I (k) now of. A good saw mill would clear from five to eight hundred a day. If I had a good seat and plenty of timber I would like to build one in this country. If Elizabeth and children was hear. What do you think of this project? If you and the children will come I think in a few years I can, with your help, make enough to do us the balance of our days. Thear are many ways to make money, in a word, anything a man could go at he can make and if he

will be industrious and saving he can in a few years make enough to do a common man his lifetime. But thear are hundreds that will not make anythin'. What they do make they spend as fast as they make it, in a word, money is less account hear than any place that I ever seen. Everything is worth more than the gold. A man can git gold for anything he has, at any price, all most. Milk is worth one dollar a quart; butter one dollar and fifty cts a pound; good milk cows is worth one hundred dollars; good oxen $100 *dollars; mules* $100 *to* $150 *dollars.*

Thus you see that gold is of the least value of anything else. This is said to be a fine hogg country. All they want is to keep them tame and the wolves and bare (bear) from them. Some men have very large droves of hoggs hear. I have seen some of them, (and) they look very fine. This is a great country for mast and it is said to never fail hitting. Thear was two Grisly Bairs come in sight of our cabin yesterday and James Carnahan shot twice at one last evening and the evening before I snapped at one about twenty yds. from me. It was on a deer I had killed. They are very plenty hear and said to be much plentier up higher in the mountains. They are said to be very dagerish (dangerous) when wounded and sometime when they are not, if they come in close contact. When I snapped at that one I run with all my might and, not taking notice which way I was going, and the evening being cloudy and late, I got lost and went about 8 *miles to a house* 6 *miles past home. Got home next day about* 10 *o'clock.*

This is the 18*th day of November. We will start to the City in a few days to git more provisions. I hope to git some word from you then for I have not heard from you since I left home. It would do me good to see a few lines from you, but it would do me a heap more good to see you and children. But will I ever see you again in this world? I hope I will, but should I not, will we meet in heaven? I leave you to answer this question. For my part, I am determined to try, through the help of God, to git thear. May the Lord help us all to do our duty toward Him and our fellowman.*

To the subject of your coming hear, not to live hear, longer than two or three years, for I don't like the country well enough to live hear any longer than I can git enough to do us our lives. I don't want you to come by land for it is too great a(n) undertaking. The dust is enough to kill anybody. If it was not for the helth of the country otherwise, I had forgotten to tell you about the dust. From the time we struck the road on Humbolt to the mountain it was a continual cloud of dust, many times hiding the wagon and team from the driver, and on this side of the mountain the dust was as bad in places. Many places the dust was half-leg deep in the road. This is the objection I have to this country. It is

dry so long the roads being traveled so much they become so dusty, and when the rains set in it is muddy in many places.

Thear is some of the prettiest country I ever seen and the richest. But timber is scarce, only on the hill and rivers, near the mountains. Hear it is very good, the best for plank I ever saw. It is said the timber is better down the river, nearer the coast and the country better. The climet more eving (even). Never very hot nor cold. The weather hear though, in sight of the snow, is very pleasant. We have not had any frost yet. It is raining a little most every day.

If you will come let me know as soon as you can and I will make preparation for that purpose so that I can go after you next fall and to direct you how to fix for the trip. You will please let me (k) now as soon as you can for if you come I want to select a place and build a house.

Don't think though I want to live hear any longer than I can make enough to do us our life times for those possessing wealth hear can't enjoy it hear. Now how long this will continue I can't tell. It will continue at least till the bisness of farming and raising fruit commence for thear is nothing but mining and trading hear at present.

Tell Samuel Carnahan and Polly that James has better health than he has had for several years back. He has had as good health as any of us, if not better, and My Andrew has better health than he ever had in his life and works like he intended to git rich before he left the mines. Nothing more at present, but remain you affectionate companion

To Elizabeth Pyeatt and children and friends

John R. Pyeatt

Homesickness is pretty evident in his next letter and he still has not received a letter from home. It too bears the Sacramento postmark, and is dated Dec. 19, California.

Gold Diggin's Cosumnes river California
December the 9th, 1849

Dier Companion, Children and Friends, having not heard a word from you since I left home I have becom(e) very anxious to receive som(e)thing from you. It would do me more good than anything I could think of. Ind. (letters faded) *you may think you (k)now how anxious I am to git a letter from you but you(k) now nothing about it, nor cannot (k)now unless you ware in the same situation that I am in, having btn absent about 8 months and not having heard a word from you. I have no dout but you have heard from us several times for I have rote six letters to you from different points. I have riten one from before this. Why I have not goten a letter I cannot tell unless they are directed to*

Sanfrancisco. This place is so far distant that we can't git letters from thear.

We made arrangement with a Merchant to lift our letters out of the office thear and bring them to the Sacramento City for one dollar extra on the letter, but som(e) how we have not got any yet, but I am in hopes that we will git som(e) soon, if thear is any for us thear.

It is about 200 miles to Sanfrancisco from hear and about 25 miles to the Sacramento City. We are all well but, John Carnahan, he has the diaree, or bowel complaint, at this time but is gitting better. We still find a little gold hear, make from 4 to 20 dollars a day when we work all day. This we cannot do often for the mornings are too cold to work in the water. We think this is a pore bisness and will star(t) out in a few days to hunt a better place.

The weather is as fine as I ever saw anywhear and has bin for three weeks, clear and pleasant days and frosty nights, no winds at all. How long this will continue I cannot tell. This climate suits me very well and I have very good health. So does the most of the boys, if it did not it would kill the most of them a-working in the water like they do, thear feet wet from morning to night.

Mining is a hard bisness. We have provision enough to see us through the winter if it was not for the travelers that we have to feed. We live on one of the main roads and they call on us very oftain for lodging and we are oblige(d) to take them in. We make them pay three dollars for supper and breakfast and lodging and would be glad to git rid of them, at that, for we don't like to take the time to cook for them.

I have offer(ed) to give one dollar a day for to have Andrew's and my cooking don(e) and couldn't git it. At that, this may look like giving a large sum but we can make from one to $1.50 cents an hour a piece and it takes longer than this to git a meal cooked. Hear you may see the need of a cook and housekeeper. This is a good bisness in this country. Boarding by the week is from 20 to 25 dollars a week without lodging; boarding by the day is 3 to 4 dollars; a meal, vittles of the plainest sort, from $1.50 to $2.00 dollars, Indeed everything is so hy that I don't (k)now what is the highest—mules from 100 to 200 dollars, cows 100 dollars, oxen from 100 to 200, beef fity cts. a pound, pork from 35 to 60 dollars, flower (flour) from 35 to 50 dollars, a board plank 65 cts. a foot, sheet iron $1.00 a pound, molases $1.50 a gallon; rice 10 to 13 cts, a pound, common coarse boots from $8 to $9.00 dollars a pair.

Indeed, thear is nothing hear that is not of value but gold, and everybody is after it. They want it all for a near song and they are gitting it too, at least som(e) of them. The merchants and traders are making princely fortunes.

How long this will last I cannot tell but unless thear is a heap more

ingaged in the bisness it will not git any better for a long time for the people will work the mines hear, let these things cost what they will. Flower (flour) has sold for $1.50 a pound in the mines this winter. Hauling is very hy. There has bin offers made at 50 cts. a pound to haul 55 or 60 miles. Thus you may see from this that anything a man can go at, he can make gold, if he will take care of it, but thear are so many ways to spend money hear that som(e) will not save anything if they make ever so much.

The last I rote you I rote on the subject of your coming hear. I again mention this subject, if you and the children war hear we could make enough to do us in a few years and then go back to whear we could injoy it for I don't think this country will be a pleasant country to live in for som(e) time yet, as thear is nothing like farming or orchard a-making hear though this would be a good bisness no dout, but the people don't want to wait so long for to git gold. The most of the people hear have corn and left their families and want back as soon as they can git enough to answer their purpose. Thear is but very few permanent settlers and therefore, for the most part of the inhabitants are transient.

This is the reason that I would not like to live hear, or at least with many more, that I do not think worthwhile to mention. I am well pleased with the climet so far, how the summer will please me I cannot tell. But what do you think of coming hear next winter? I want to hear from you soon so I can make the necessary arrangements for you. I don't want you to come by land. This is too great an undertaking. I don't think I will ever cross the mountains and plains again, but to come by water will not take over two months, while that by land will take six months with double the costs and hardships and dangers. If you will com(e) let me (k)now so that I can select a place and build a house to live in in time to git home next fall and start back soon in the winter. I think that by that time I can make enough to squair me in that part. I will try to sen(d) you som(e) money if I can git a safe chance, which I think I can in the Spring, don't (k)now for certain.

Judge Davis is a-going back I think next Spring and If I can git to see him I will send you som(e).

If you will com(e) I want to b(u)ild a saw mill if I can find a stream. This is the best bisness that I (k)now of, or ever heard of in my life. A good saw mill will c(l)ear from $1,000 to $1,500 dollars a day, but this is too goo(d) a bisness to last long, but say it carries down three months, it is still a good bisness which I don't think it will come down over half, owing to the scarcity of timber near the towns and settlements, but if it should com(e) down so that it would not be profitable thear is many other things that I could make money at without going to the mines. So give me an answer. I would be glad that you could git

som(e) friend to settle that Spencer debt, or git it out of his hand on as good returns as possible —— (impossible to decipher). *Nothing more but remain your affectionate companion.*

John R. Pyeatt

To Elizabeth Pyeatt, children and friends.

The next correspondence is an undated letter, thought to have accompanied the December 9th letter. It is without salutation and reads:

Having riten so many letters to you and gave all the information that I could I still want to do the same, and for fear of hurting feelings I think it proper to rite a few lines in secret from the balance of the letter. This you will be careful not to make publick.

It is concerning our working together as was the case when I rote before. Some three weeks I went to the City to git a load of provision with some of the boys and when I got back with the agon they had don(e) nothin(g) hardly, but hunt and fool 'round an not having don(e) any work, scarcely at all. This did not set well on my stomick, as going to the city was considered a extra hard job, which it was, and for the rest to do nothing while we were gone did not suit me. But this is not all. The next day 5 of the boys spent in gitting out and shaving about a dozen of boards to make gold washers which afterwards they made two things of. John Kellam spent the holiday working on his gunnlock. Andrew Crawford was hunting some of the missing oxen and Mathis, Andrew and myself washed gold and made about as much as all had done while I was gone to the City. Each day from that time I gave them to understand that that way of working would not suit me, so we seperated. Andrew Crawford and Mathis works with Andrew and myself. John Kellam works for his-self and Porter works to his self, but he does nothing but fix 'round like he was a-going to stay hear for life, which I don't (k)now but he is, and the rest of the boys work together. I think I never heard them say how they worked but I tell you that the work went on another sort, then it did before. The gunns was laid up and we was soon out of venison. John Kellam, that had not worked a holiday before and could do nothing but hunt, hardly touches his gun for a hoal week at a time and does nothing but work at washing gold. He is not the man that I took him to be. There is a heap of Emily in him. He is all for self. In a word all the boys work as much more as they did before, but there has to be a change in the cooking affairs, this must take a change for some won't do anything at it, others has it all to do. This is the reason that I offered to give one dollar a day to have mine and Andrew's cooking. I offered to do the cooking if the rest would give the same, to wit 50 cts. apiece each day. I wanted this matter settled, but those that did not

cook nouldn't pay anything in it, so the matter stands yet, but it can't stand so long for it nothing else will do we will take it day about. It is disagreeable to be thus situated so far from home, but we git along tolerably well otherwise. Nothing more at present, but remain your affectionate companion..

John R. Pyeatt

Christmas comes and goes, as does the first month of 1850 and Pyeatt still has not heard from his family in Arkansas. He writes to them again from Cosumenes River, California February the 17th 1850.

Dier Companion, Children and friends: After my love and respects to you I inform you that we are all well at this time and hope these lines will find you injoying the same with many blessings that we do not injoy hear. We have had som(e) sickness this winter. I've had the scurvy, my Andrew has had it, A. A. Crawford, Wm, Crawford, S, B. Marrs, but they have all got well, but A. A. Crawford and he is nearly well, He had liked to have died. He thot it was the rumtism (rheumatism) untill his legs and thighs had turned black and his gums much swel(led) and black. He then applied to me for medical aid. At this time it was with much difficulty that he could git out of bed without help. At this stage of the disease the doctors say it is incurable, but by applying the botanic practise thickly, he was soon on his feet again and is now nearly well. The rest of them that had the disease did not wait till they got so bad till they went to doctoring and ware soon well. This shows the superiority of the botanic practice over the mineral practice even hear in California.

We are still in our cabin, but the most of us will leave it soon and go to the river soon, 2½ miles from this (place) to work on the river while some of the boys talk of staying hear and keeping entertainment for travelers. We have more or less of them every night. Sometimes we are crowded and we make them pay 3 dollars a night. This looks hy but this is the common price and we keep as good a house as any of them, rough as it is. Indeed it is rought lodging hear on the dirt floor, or on punchins (puncheons) with a few deer skins on them, but this is better than the most of them have that keep entertainment hear tho most of them don't have as much as a blanket to lay on, or to cover with, but we have som of them. We have done better this winter than I had expected that we would. I thot if we made our expenses when we came hear this winter we would do well but we have don better than that.

Andrew and myself have made something like six hundred dollars to our part and Andrew has lost something like a month while he was sick, but is now able to work. We have don but little work for the last three weeks. The rain ceast (ceased) about that time and we have bin hunting a place to go to and hunting our oxen and selling them. We have

sold all of them for six yoak (yoke) we got one thousand and fifty dollars. We sold them from $125 to $200—Tom and Jerry for $125 dollars. We have bot one mule for one hundred and fifty dollars and will likely run our wagon some this spring and summer if it will justify the present prices. For hauling is very hy. It is from 30 to 50 dollars per hundred to the mines, a distance of 40 to 60 miles. We had a very wet winter but other ways pleasant. We had but one sprinkle of snow and that melted as fast as it fell. Since the rain quit it has bin as fine weather as I ever seen, some sharp frosts at first but no wind at all. Spring is evidently hear. We look for no more rain of much importance till next fall.

Andrew and myself will have about one thousand dollars when we divide the money that we got for our oxen and if I could git a good chance I would send it to you, but I don't (k)now of any at present. I will be at home next winter if I am alive, unless you com hear befor that time.

I would like to have you and children hear. I have not had a letter from you or any friend. Why not I can't tell. Some of our friends have got some. It don me good to hear from (about) you but it would have don me much more if I could have got a letter from you or som friend. Why I have not got any I can't tell unless you have not riten any.

Send the children to school all you can, if you lack money, borrow if you can and I will pay it as soon as I git home. I would rite more but I have a chance to send it to the city and git it off by the first mail and if I miss this chance it will be one month before I have another chance and the men that are a-going to the city won't wait for me to rite all I want to rite so I must close my letter.

May the Lord be with you and bless you and keep you from all sin is the sincear praier of your affectionate husband, father and friend.

John R. Pyeatt

Pyeatt apparently missed the March mail and Andrew is writing to his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Pyeatt April 22, 1850.

Dear Mother: I for the first time take my pen in hand to inform you that we are all well and hope that you are injoying the same comfort of life.

The health of the company in general has been very good. The most of our sickness has been with the scurvy, a disease that affects generally the muscles and bones. Of the number that had it I was one, but I did not have it as bad as some of the rest.

We have picked out our place that we allowed to work, but another company come in and claimed the place. There has been a little quarreling done but no fighting yet. We have at last concluded to get miners disinterested and lay the case before them for their decision. The place

that we picked on is on the North Fork of the American River, above what is called the big Canon, about 65 miles northeast of Sacramento City.

We have laid in our summer provisions and got them where we allowed to work. We can make from 8 to 10 dollars a day in the banks of the river. The water being so high that we cannot work on the bars without getting our feet and legs wet, so we think the best plan is to keep our feet dry and avoid sickness, or the cause of it, as long as possible.

The most of (the) Company has received letters. Poppa has got two from you and one directed to A. B. Crawford and him. The last of which was dated 26 of January, also one for Andrew Crawford with the same date. We are all very anxious to get letters from home and learn how you are getting along. The last letter, dated 26 Jan told of several weddings which we were all very sorry to hear, and provisions are getting very low at the City now.

Flour is worth 7$ per hundred; pork 36$ per bbl., butter is worth 1$ per pound.

John P. Kellum left the Company while at the cabins and went to the City and while there he concluded to go to the middle fork of the American River, Deer Creek and the south fork of the Uber (Yuba?) and when he arrived there he got in the Company with Lewis, Mankins, Louis Company and from thence he went a-prospecting so I have not heard of him since.

We have been making machines to wash gold with and preparing to work when the watter gets down. Poppa, A. Crawford, John Mathis & myself have been working together and expect to do so through the summer. Jas. L. Crawford has taken his waggon and team to the City for the purpose of selling them. We have not concluded what we shall do with our mules yet. We are at this time a good ways up in the mountains where the high hills overlooks the green valleys below.

We hauled our provisions as far in the mountains as we could and then had to pack them a distance of 6 miles on our mules over some very rough country. The chief mode of traveling in this counry is on foot with a pack on his back, which will weigh 30 or 40 pounds, and I have seen as high (as) 100 pounds on a man's back, but he did not go very fast.

I would be very glad to get a Letter from home and Mother, when you write again tell how the children are getting along and especially little ma for I have often thought of her while travelling through the plains and over the mountains and tell her not to forget me while I'm away.

But I have wrote enough, such as it is, and now I must come to the close. Mother, you need not look for us all back unless our Heavenly Father sees fit that we should live, but if we never meet again in this world, may we all meet in another better than this. Give my Respects to

all enquireing friends. I remain your affectionate Son.

A.B.T. Pyeatt to Elizabeth Pyeatt

John Rankin Pyeatt has resumed his correspondence to his wife and his pleasure in receiving a letter from her is self-evident despite the fact that she obviously doesn't want to make the trip to California. He writes from Valley Cove, North Fork of the American River, sixty or seventy miles northeast of the Sacramento City, Cal. on May the 5th, 1850.

Dier Companion, Children and Friends, after my love and respects to you I inform you that we are all in good health with the ecception (exception) of Jas. L. Crawford who has just returned from the City a few days ago. He is som what unwell but is getting better and I hop(e) these lines will find you in the same state of health. I have nothing of importance to write to you only that Brother Porter is drownded. He was drownded on the first day of this month. I will not say anything about the circumstances as myself and James Carnahan has gave them all in a letter that Brother Porter had commenced a few days before his death. We finished it out to all friends and directed it to Wm. S. Pyeatt and that letter will go with this. I will just say that we have not heard of him since he was drownded and do not expect to ever hear of him again.

I will just hear say to Sister Polly that Brother Porter has 377 dollars worth of gol(d) dust and som other articles of value that I think will bring some 50 or 60 dollars more. This I will keep till I return home and pay his debts as far as it goes. I do not know how much he does owe.

Dier Companion I received your letter dated January the 26th on the second day of Aprill and was much pleased to learn that you had heard of our safe arivel hear and still more to hear that you were all well and doing well.

You cannot think how it chears our disconsolate feelings to receive a letter from home. As it respects your unwillingness to com hear and your request for me to stay till the object of my journey is accomplished, that I cannot think of staying longer than this winter. When I think of the Children and your society, the Church Sunday School and the society of Friends, gold has no attraction to keep me longer.

I expect to start home as soon as the rainy season sets in, which will be sometime in Nov. and will be at home the last of December or first of January. This is my present calculation, if I should alter my notion (which I do not think I will) I will let you know. Should I not make enough to pay my debts and give me a little start I may com back in the spring, as it will not cost much more to go home and com back again, then to stay hear, if any, unless I were to do like I did last winter, work and hunt in the rain all the time. This I do not think I will ever do again for I am gitting too old and too near worn out to stand it.

We have not made anything worth notis since we left our cabin but spent a good deal. The water keeps up so high that we cannot do anything on the river and from the present appearance it will be the first of June before we can do anything on the river, unless we could find som diggin's in the mountains. This we will, I think, try to do and let Son stay and hold our river claims and other work till the water gits down. If we should leave our claims it would be taken immediately, therefore, we have to stay by them till the water fall(s) to hold them.

I would be greatly discouraged were it not for old miners that are used to work on the river. They are waiting with patience till the water gits down. They say all they want is three months to make their piles on the river and some of them say that twenty-five thousand dollars is thear expected pile this fall, but much less will do me.

We intend turning the river, this I think, we can do without a great deal of labor. We intend doing it whether we will make much by it. We cannot tell yet the water being too hy to tell anything about the richness of the channel. Those best acquainted with the river say there is nothing to fear. There are some doing well at this time in dry diggins, making from 16 to 500 dollars per day, but while one man is doing this, thear is hundreds and I might say thousands, that are not making thear expences, running to and fro hunting some place to work. Some hear of these places, leave where they were making something, and by the time they git thear, the place is all taken up by those nearer, so that they can git no place to work.

So we have concluded to stay and hold our claims till we (know) whether or no they will pay for working them. If we should not find them rich, we will, in a great measure have lost the summer's work, and have but little time to hunt other diggin's. This we have to risk, we have provision enough to do us through the summer, but I and one of the boys are a-going to start to the City in a few days to git some articles that we need.

I have written all that I know of that would be of intrust to you except to tell you about John Kellam. He left us at the cabins the day before we started to move to go to the City to git letters and has not returned to us any more. He left all his money, clothing and tools with us. This caused us a good deal of uneasiness and some trouble before we found where he was gone. We hear of him sometime but do not hear whether he intends to come to us or not. We don't expect him. What was his notion for leaving us in the way he did, I do not know. He is now with Peter Mankins and company. The last I heard of him they had laid claims on a creek and intended turning it when it got down. They had done some work on it, diggin' the race the last account we had.

I would like for you to write oftener and tell me about the Children,

whether they have forgotten me and if they are a-learning anything with the present teacher. In partikler I would like to know if Mary Adaline has forgotten me. These might be cold, small things, but they are interesting to me. My sheet is full. I must close. Oh that the Lord would bless and sanctify us all and keep us from all sin, that if we never meet in this world, that we may meet in heaven whear parting is no more and whear sorrow never comes.

John R. Pyeatt

The next preserved letter is dated September 26, 1850 from Sacramento. Pyeatt's homesickness shows and if he kept to his timetable he is only two months away from leaving California for Arkansas.

Dier Companion, Children and friends, after my best love and respects to you all, I inform you that we are all tolerable well at this time, but we have had some sickness since I last rote to you. A few days after I rote, James Carnahan took a relapse by working and was worse than ever. (He) had liked to died with inflamation of the stomach and bowels and about the time James began to mend A. B. Crawford took the bilious fever and had liked to have died but he has got about a little again so as to be able to travel again.

We are now at the city having left the mines 5 or 6 days ago. We have made a -pore out of the summer. Our claim did not turn out well and so much sickness that we have made but little.

The last letters I received from you was dated on the 26 ofMay. I all so received 2 from Brother Peter and on the same day dated about the same time. I received these letters about 2 weeks ago. These letters was a sorse (source) of great satisfaction to me, as it had bin some time since I had heard from you. Your request to know how much I have made, I am ashamed to tell you, having made so little. I am at a loss to go home with so little, and feel like trying it this winter if I can see any good prospect. This I will try for 5 or 6 weeks and if I do not find a prospect in that time, I will start home. I am sorrow(ful) to learn that so many of our neighbors are in such a way about California. I would just say for the satisfaction of my neighbors that 19 out of 20 would be glad to be at home but cannot git thear for the want of money and I would say that James Crawford, J. M. Blair and all other friends to stay whear they are till I git home and I think I can put them out of the notion of coming hear.

What I will follow this winter, if I stay hear, I do not (know)yet. I will write to you as soon as I learn. It will not be worth your while to write to me after you receive this letter till you hear from me again. I will not write about particklers as I send this letter by Aaron Tyner and

he can tell you more than I can write, besides I have not time to write at this time. He will start in a few hours and I have to go to town with this letter, being camped some distance from the city. I must conclude by asking the blessing of God on you and ourselves, till we all meet again, if not in this world, in heaven. I remain your affectionate husband, Father and friend.

John R. Pyeatt

The final letter, fragmentary and undated, but apparently later than the one above, bears only the numeral 4, in the upper left hand corner. It reads:

Andrew and myself will start there unless we see some good prospect to make something, then we will stay till spring, but the prospect must be good. It grieves me to think about staying longer than fall, but duty to my Children and you, my Companion, prompts me to stay as long as spring if I can make anything worthwhile by it.

Had I have went to work at my traid (trade) when I came here I mite (have) been much better off then I am now, but it is too late to ingage in that business now for all the time I have to stay hear.

There are many other ways that a man might do well hear, if he was fixed to stay several years, but the chances for making a fortune by mining are only one in a thousand. Many have gone home with only enough to pay thear passage and some have borrowed it and some have ingaged to work their passage.

There is no bisness that I know of being followed hear that is so uncertain as mining and on one bisness that has so many working at it, I have said enough on this subject. As you are not willing to com hear I must content myself with what I can git while I stay, let that be ever so small.

To Sister Polly: I received your kind letter dated March the 26 *about* 4 *weeks ago. This letter done me a great deal of good to hear from you and the children, but it gave me some pain to think that that monster of a man was so bent on tearing even the means of my getting home, if it was in his power, but he can't do it. He may make some believe in his profession of Religion but he can't deceive his maker and if those that believe in him will read thear Bible they will find thear is no forgiveness of sins to them that are violating his commands, whenever they have a chance, by defrauding their neighbors. There is a day coming when the thing will be seen in the true light and be rewarded according to what they desarve.*

To Brother Peter and Family: I received your kind letter, dated March the 30*th at the same time I received sister Polly's. This all so*

gave me some satisfaction to know that you had not forgotten us and our vows to remember each other at a throne of grace. I acknowledge that I have failed in some instances to attend to that, as I ought to have done. I will not make any excuses for my neglect, yet I hope you will not neglect it, and I will try to be more Faithful. May the Lord help me to be Faithful. In answer to your letter to write to you and all the friends. If I were to write separately to all my friends it would take all the money that I can make in California to pay for taking them to the city. We have to pay fifty cents to have a letter carried to the city and mailed and two dollars and forty cts. to have them brot to us from the city. There is men that makes a bisness of carr(y)ing letters for the miners and make money at it.

It is not known exactly when Pyeatt returned to his home at Cane Hill but family tradition says that he never smiled again after the death of Andrew.

Pyeatts still live at Cane Hill. One great grandson, Clay Buchanan Pyeatt lives below the village, a grandson Christopher Pyeatt also lives there. This makes six generations of Pyeatts who have lived at Cane Hill.

Mrs. Raymond M. (Tommie B.) Buchanan who made the letters available for publication in Flashback writes:

After a bit of research I can report that John Rankin Pyeatt's dates are 1805-1895. Mary Pyeatt of Cane Hill is a granddaughter still living. Henrietta and George are also still living but I do not know their addresses.

The letters were kept by a granddaughter, Mrs. Kate Patterson Moore. After her death they were given to Mrs. Rita Patterson Howard of Fort Smith who kept them ten years before she learned what they really were, and she is the one who is actually giving them to the University.

Great-grandchildren still living include: Katisue Moore ____; Rita Moore Caldwell, Avoca, Ark.; Rita Patterson Howard, Fort Smith; Roberta Patterson Beaver, Rhea's Mill; Robert Paul Patterson, Terre Haute, Ind.; Bill Patterson, Wichita, Kan.; Kathryn Buchanan, Fort Smith; Lucy Buchanan Bell, Clovis, N. M.; W. A. Buchanan, Las Cruces, N. M.; Ruth Pyeatt Trewhit, Bartlesville, Okla.; Clay Buchanan Pyeatt, Cane Hill; Ruby Pyeatt Threlkeld, Fort Smith and Herbert Theron Pyeatt, Sheldon, Mo.

I know Nita Moore Caldwell, a charming woman who was at one time the secretary to President Futrall of the University of Arkansas. Though aged, she would have many interesting stories of her great-grandfather to tell.

Community Assistance

Old Style

By Deane G. Carter

(Much of the following information is from a story by Zillah Cross Peel, which appeared in the **Fayetteville Sunday Leader,** April 27, 1930. The clipping was included among other items belonging to Mrs. Jerome Reynolds, and contributed by her daughter.)

A plan for charity work in Fayetteville was adopted in 1912 by a group of business people, under the leadership of Tom Taylor. More than a thousand dollars was collected in the first year of operation. Then, the next year an organization was launched that embodied the 1912 plan; a Board of Directors; and a program of relief and aid to the needy. Mrs. A. C. Hamilton was the president, with Mrs. O. P. McDonald, Mrs. Lessie S. Read, Mrs. J. F. Moore, and Mrs. G. A. Vincenheller among the leaders.

Later on, Mrs. Hamilton resigned, and Mrs. Jerome Reynolds became president. And among the active workers in the program were Mrs. J. H. McIlroy, Mrs. Otey Miller, Mrs. L. Silverman, and Mrs. Dwight Moore. Donations were made through the churches. No matter how small the contribution, each donor was counted as a member of the relief association.

At first, Mrs. Hamilton used her back porch as a storehouse for donated garments, and those in need came there to select clothing. Money was used to buy school books, milk for children, rooms for transients, medical supplies and railroad tickets. In 1921, contributions amounted to more than $2,000.

Looking back across more than 50 years, the activities seem small, particularly now that we have such organizations as the Salvation Army, Abilities Unlimited, the United Fund, Red Cross, County Health Unit, and other public and private organizations. But in the early years of the Century, the pioneer Relief Association served a most useful purpose. Mrs. Reynolds wrote of the work:

"We buy fuel, groceries, drugs and household goods, pay rent, give meals and lodging to transients, and buy railroad tickets, invalid chairs, and crutches, we have sold property, shod mules, traded horses, and once bought a second-hand artificial leg.

"We have furnished practical and trained nurses, had tonsils and adenoids removed, eyes treated and glasses fitted. We have placed children in the Little Rock orphanage, given children out for adoption, sent young girls to the Florence Crittenden Home, cared for other young mothers, and placed several in the tuberculosis sanitorium. Our employment bureau furnishes work for a surprising number of persons."

About 1926 the relief association was reorganized, with representation from the civic groups. Dr. J. F. Stanford represented the Masonic Lodge; J. W. Gray the American Legion; Roy Adams and Mooney Sherman represented the Lions and Rotary clubs, respectively. and Scott Hamilton spoke for the Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Dwight Moore was named executive secretary in charge. The following year — 1927 — the Thrift House became a part of the program.

The "Thrift House" was a rented property on North Leverett street. It was not only headquarters for the Relief Association, but it provided a nursery where working mothers might leave their children — 10 cents a day. Other activities made up a full-scale program: a Mothers Club; Boys Club; Girl Scouts; and demonstrations or classes in such subjects as weaving, quilting, food preparation, health practices, and others as requested.

University students and faculty contributed services to the Thrift House, along with the city's club women. But the work of Mrs. Moore was outstanding; always active, always available and completely commited to her work. Once in the WPA days, when some outlying land was being cleared on a University project, Mrs. Moore arranged for hauling, cutting, and distributing 100 or more ricks of wood — thus combining a useful service, jobs for the unemployed, and warmth for those without fuel.

Of course, the organizations supported by government and private funds, and manned by professional people can no doubt do a better and more efficient job in dealing with the needs of people. But something of the personal touch was lost when the Relief Association and the Thrift House became part of our past history.

Marriages In 1883

Two popular Fayetteville young folks were married on Sept. 16, H. J. Dowell 21, and Miss A. L. Cato, 20 went to the Rev. B. F. Totten for their ceremony on that date.

D. L. Dunagan, 30 and Miss Nancy Haws, 23 of Rhea, had their wedding by the Rev. Thomas H. Day on Sept. 17.

H. J. Dunnagan, and Miss Lucy E. Ross, ages 20 and 15, took their vows before the Rev. J. W. Garrett, on Dec. 19.

West Forkers Richard H. Dye, 30 and Miss Med Carney, 25, who listed her address as Lone Star, were married on Dec. 30, by Justice of the Peace G. S. White.

William Eden and Miss Lueseta Renfrow, ages 20 and 23, were pronounced husband and wife, after a visit to Justice White on Oct. 14.

Elbert Farmer, 24 and Miss Mary E. Richardson, 19, both of the Strickler community took their license to their local preacher James Whitaker who read their ceremony of marriage on April 16.

From Springdale came W. T. Farrer, 27 and Miss Dora Dailey, 17, who had the services of Sidney H. Babcock, a Minister who wed them on Dec. 13.

Joel H. Ferguson 21 and Miss Cleo James, 20, both of Fayetteville chose minister H. C. Crowell to unite them in marriage on Jan. 27.

James Fields, Fayetteville, 24, and Miss S. B. Brickey, age 20, of Wager, in Benton County, said their vows before the Rev. M. D. Steele on Oct. 4.

J. P. Crozier, a minister of the Gospel, signed the certificate for Gade Fisher, 24 and Miss Harriett Rich, 16, on Sept. 15.

B. C. Fitzgerald and Miss J. Slight, ages 21 and 19, were married by the Rev. T. J. Reynolds in a March 8 ceremony.

J. B. Flannagan, 22 and Miss Amanda C. Shaw, 20 went before A. Huckaby, a minister of the gospel on March 5, for their wedding vows.

Middle Fork Justice R. A. Rutherford performed the ceremony uniting J. D. Foster and Miss Addie VanHoose, both of Durham, on Aug. 12.

Hugh Free, 24 and Miss E. Reynolds, 18, a couple from Rheas Mill, took their wedding vows before the Rev. Thomas H. Day on Feb. 3.

Sam O. Fulgham 22 of Rhea, and Miss Flora L. Giles of Cincinnati, took their license to the Rev. Preston B. Hopkins, who united them in marriage on Dec. 16. Flora was 23.

Henry Funkhouser, 29 and Miss M. J. Maxwell, 23 also of Rhea were married by Justice W. D. Parks, on Jan. 28. Funkhouser was from Cincinnati.

Viney Grove residents William Gabin, 28 and Miss Martha Pettigrew, 23 were married on Aug. 22, by Justice of the Peace C. J. Marrs.

Spring Valley couple Cornelius Gann and Miss Ida Bias, ages 23 and 19, took their license to J. T. Boyd, who signed his name certifying they were husband and wife on Nov. 8. Boyd seldom stated his authority for performing marriages.

J. W. George 26, of Wheeler, went to Elm Springs for the hand of Miss L. Singleton for a ceremony on Aug. 26, read by W. J. Hogg, a Justice of the Peace.

C. A. Gibson, 28 and Miss Lillie Stone, 21, he from Prairie Grove, and she from Viney Grove took their vows before the Rev. S. N. Burns, on Feb. 11.

Justice of the Peace H. D. Parks, who married many, performed the Sept. 8, service for J. W. Gibson of Farmington and Miss Henrieta Beavet of Cincinnati. He was 23 and she 15 years of age.

W. S. Gilmore of Fayetteville, and Miss Ann Cafe, Prairie Grove, both 21, were married on Feb. 14, by W. G. D. Hinds, a Justice of the Peace.

A Cincinnati couple G. W. Greenwood 21 and Miss M. B. Cowgur, 15, went to Justice of the Peace, who pronounced them husband and wife on June 5.

Queries

I am searching for my ancestors. I have heard that my grandmother, Susan HALLAM WOODY is buried at Maysville, Ark. She was married to Milligan Clark WOODY on Nov. 10, 1878. She was born Aug. 15, 1854 and died April 26, 1886 when my mother was two years old. My mother (Martha Naomi) had a brother Homer and a sister Lilly. Mother and Homer were raised in foster homes and Lilly by relatives. Milligan's father was Josiah Askew Woody and his grandfather was John Wesley Woody. Milligan married again after Susan died and there were some children by that marriage.

Mrs. Ocie Lee Usher Gentry, Route 2, Box 176, Neodesha, Kan. 66757.

I need information concerning the whereabouts of Lexey PICKENS a full blooded Indian. She was born in Arkansas about 1896 and was married to Joseph BELLO, between 1911 and 1913. I was born to them on Aug. 28, 1914 in Henryetta, Okla. Both father and grandfather died in 1958. Can anyone help?

Michael Angelo Bello, 8411 Quintana St., New Carrolton, Md. 20784.

Need information regarding my great-grandfather, W. H. SMITH. First name thought to be Wilse. He was a minister of the Freedom Methodist Church and is thought to have been elected to the State Legislature in the early 1900's. He was born in 1856 and died in 1935 and is buried in Freedom Cemetery. He may have married Sally HUGLE and had a daughter named Annie Bertha, my grandmother.

Darrell G. Summers, 5706 Oriole St., Houston, Tex. 77017.

Would like information on the HEAD family in Northwest Arkansas.

Mrs. Helen Lee Schunke, P. O. Box 257, The Dalles, Ore. 97058.

I need information on Daniel HARDESTY, wife Elizabeth, children William, Hezekiah, John, Joseph and Nancy in Phillips County, Arkansas in 1840. Daniel died 1845 and Nancy married S. B. BENARD (RENARD) and had children Eli and Alice. No record of this family has been found after 1860.

Mrs. Jessie Park, 212 Indiana, Neodesha, Kan. 66757.

I am interested in information concerning James K. LANGLEY (1844-1923) who married Susan MANFIELD (1844-1892) and the Rev. James MAYFIELD (1880-1865) who lived in the Goshen area. I also would like a copy of Volume 3, No. 1 of FLASHBACK.

Max D. Miller, 715 Cardinal Drive, Pasadena, Tex. 77502.

I need information regarding the parents of George Washington BALLARD and William Riley BALLARD. George married Rachel MANKINS and William Riley married her sister Sarah MANKINS. They may have had a brother Calvin.

Mrs. Ouida Harkreader, 14218 Lowe Ave., Riverdale, Ill. 60627.

Is there anyone in the area working on the PRATER genealogy? Most of my lines are in Crawford County, but my Prater line seems to be mostly in Washington and Madison Counties and I find very little information from there. I also need the address of Miss Mary Cox of Sanderson, Tex. who compiled the information on the MORROW family published in the July 1963 FLASHBACK.

Christine Wells Rodrigues, 10972 Swansea Place, San Diego, Calif. 92126.

I am still looking for pictures of the Old Goshen Mill. If anyone ever locates one, I will be glad to pay for a copy.

S. H. Sherman, P. O. Box 1053, St. Simons Island, Ga. 31522.

Need information about Jacob SEXTON (1785-1875) probably born in Virginia and wife Dortha (1783-1862). Both died near Dutch Mills. In 1820 they were in Gallatin County, Illinois where their daughter, Martha and probably their sons William and Jacob Jr. were born. They lived along the Arkansas/Oklahoma border in Indian Territory in a community known as Sexton in the early 1830's. Jacob was a Methodist Minister and an Early Circuit Rider.

Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, 1544 Loganberry Way, Pleasanton, Cal. 94566.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: I too need information on an early Methodist minister. If any of you folks know where such records for Arkansas and Oklahoma can be found, let the Society know.)

Need information on Eliza REED and her children. Eliza next oldest daughter of William and Margaret ROBERTSON REED, born in 1819 in Kentucky and died 1886 in Washington County, Ark. She married first Jacob SEXTON Jr., son of Jacob and Dortha SEXTON, who died in California in 1850. At age 52, Eliza married a widower Allen MCROY, age 64, in Washington County in 1871.

Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, 1544 Loganberry Way, Pleasanton, Cal. 94566.

Will exchange information on Achilles Durham CANTRELL, born 1819 in Tennessee married Sarah Elizabeth ROGERS. Lived in Sparta, Ill. in 1856. Washington County, Ark. in 1876. Have published Cantrell family genealogy from 1608. Who were Sarah Elizabeth Rogers' parents? Mary Cantrell married Jasper Newton Walker in 1876 at Elm Springs. They were my grandparents. Died 1939.

Mrs. Rylen M. Rudy, 3309 E. English, Wichita, Kan. 67218.

Need information on John Crabtree born June 5, 1825 in Harrison County, Ohio. Died Sept. 13, 1895 and is buried in the White Oak Cemetery at Wheeler. His first wife was Mary Elizabeth born July 13, 1833 in Ohio, died Sept. 18, 1885 or 1887 and is buried at White Oak. His second wife was Caroline JAGGERS who died Nov. 17, 1927 and is buried at White Oak. John is believed to be the father of my paternal great-grandfather William J. Crabtree, who is thought to have died in July of 1900 at Harris, Ark. Would like obituary information.

Robert Lee Crabtree Sr., 220 E. 46th St., Topeka, Kan. 66609.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Obituaries for the people Mr. Crabtree mentions are not included in the Northwest Arkansas Times nor its forerunner the Fayetteville Democrat. Does anyone have any information for this researcher?)

Seeking information on KINCANNON, LUCAS, BLACKBURN and GRADY families, primarily in Logan, Scott and Sebastian Counties.

Mrs. Chester M. Garrett Jr., Residence du Petit Hudra, Batiment G 6e Etage, Birmandreis, Alger, Algerie.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is our first member from outside the United States. Welcome Mrs. Garrett. If any of you readers know anything of this young woman's families, please write her.)

Old Circuit Court Records

By Lloyd McConnell

The docket was heavy late in the year 1877, and Judge Pittman called additional jurors to replace some who had served many days. Jesse Thornton, who did not show was assessed $10 for his failure to respond.

Lewis Simpson was a school director, a legal excuse. Columbus Jackson was ill. I. T. Vaughan, Riley Graham, James Beller, Ransom Hester, George Dickerson, George D. Miller, John Springer, W. H. Brown, David Carter, I. T. Doss, Jesse L. Cravens, I F. Johnson, Garland Phillips, Adam Reed, Alfred Davidson, and William Massie were sworn in to try the cases before the court.

The witnesses in the Mary Holcomb case, which was put off until the next term, were placed under bond, and included W. H. Holcomb, J. B. Baggett, Andrew Fitzgerald, S. S. Persell, James Beebe, A. G. Smith, Jehu Morrison, M. P. Daniels, and Bennett Putman. Defendant witnesses Kohn O'Neal and Puttman were also under bond.

Smith Eidson was fined $5 for a breach of the peace and while he was there another $50 for carrying the pistol. George Eidson was charged $10 and the docket shows "solt & batry". Samuel Shannon and Calvin Rutherford escaped punishment for misdemeanors.

John Winkler stood trial for murder, and the jury reduced the charge to manslaughter and recommended a short prison term. His jury included Alex Davidson, Ransom Hester, Jacob Heck, George Morrow Jr., J. M. Moore, William Massie, J. F. Baldridge, J. T. Appleby, John Jacobson, Thomas White, R. J. Quesenbury, and T. A. Linebarger.

Magdalene Fletcher, age 13, applied to the court for permission to sign with other heirs of Job Fletcher, in trading some lands on White River east of Fayetteville, to Smith Jones, for adjoining lands, and the court found she was of sufficient understanding and intelligence that she should be allowed to sign the deed.

Charley Owens, Ide Vaughan, Dick Edmiston and Charlie Fisher having been held in jail until the end of the term, or until such time as the Sheriff found it convenient to transport them to the state prison, were prepared for the trip down state and the sheriff asked for five additional guards to Alma. The court approved the request. I have wondered how the Sheriff would transport five felons under facilities available in those days before the Frisco came through. Wagon, buggy, stagecoach, horse or mule back or how?

What You May Have Missed

The FLASHBACK, in publication since 1951, now has some 700 subscribers. Many of the historical items about the county were published in these early issues, and so may not now be available to the new readers.

So they will not miss all of these legends and facts about the county, some will be republished as the editor has room in the current publications. Here is one:

THORNSBERRY, A Famous Old Methodist Camp Ground
By Rev. William Sherman — October 1952

Among the many places of interest in Washington County, the Old Thornsberry Camp Ground deserves to be remembered. It is situated in the northwestern corner of the county, about 12 miles west of Springdale, and within half mile of the Benton County line. The land, six and one-eighth acres, was deeded by Jonas Weems and his wife, Bethena, to John B. Webster, Kirby Sanders, David Brickey, James A. Robinson, and Daniel Spiell, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and their successors in office. This deed was dated September 5, 1860.

CAMPGROUND PLANNED

Soon after the deed was recorded, the people began to plan for a camp ground on this site. The Camp was built and named for Rev. Martin Thornsberry, a pioneer Methodist preacher in Northwest Arkansas, and one who had entered the land in an early day, but had sold it to others. At the same time a plot of ground was set aside for a cemetery, and many pioneer citizens and a number of Confederate soldiers, killed during the war, were buried there.

At this time there was no church organization here. The Camp ground supplied a place for meeting for our Methodist people throughout this region, and it was under the control of the Circuit in which it was located. The church was organized and the present building was erected before 1900.

Back in those days the country was sparesely settled and churches were few and far between, and the camp meeting was brought into being to meet a great need. The camp meeting as an institution was of Presbyterian origin. Soon however, the Methodist Church largely a rural movement, adopted it, finding that it would fill a need in their program. Soon Methodist camp meeting sprang up all over the country.

In Washington County there were at least six such meeting places, at Salem, near Cane Hill; at Goshen Camp Ground, Macedonia, now May-

field, Thornsberry Camp Ground, Bethlehem, near Dutch Mills, Greathouse Camp Ground. Thornsberry seemed to have been the best known of them all, owing to its continued existence, serving the people for more than half a century.

THE BUILDING

Soon after the deed was received, a camp-shed, about 40 by 60 feet, was built, the entire structure being made of native timber cut from the nearby forest. Post-oak posts were barked and set for a foundation, other timbers hewed with broadaxe, and fastened with wooden pins to make the frame, the roof boards split from huge bolts. Split logs were mounted on pegs for seats and smoothed down, no backs. A pulpit at the north end of the shed, and in front of that an alter with seats on three sides known as mourners benches. The ground was covered with straw, and the shed lighted with kerosene lamps or tallow candles.

On the east and west sides of the shed, a series of log cabins were built, and were owned by those who would come and camp annually. These cabins were of one room, where the owners would store their belongings, and where, at night, they slept on a scaffold made across the back end of the cabin. Cooking and eating were done in the open out in front.

Others would come in wagons, bringing their provisions, already cooked or baked, and sleeping in their wagons or on pallets spread on the ground. Still others, those who lived near enough, would drive in from day to day bringing their dinner and would return again at night. Huge crowds attended the services each day. The meeting would last usually about ten days. For many years they embraced the third and fourth Sundays in September, then they changed to the second week in August.

STRENUOUS SCHEDULE

The schedule for services was a strenuous one. In the morning a horn would be blown to awaken the sleepers, who would repair at once to their shed for morning prayer. After breakfast they would visit among themselves until time for the morning service at 11 o'clock, and then again preaching at 3 p.m. At an early hour there was candle lighting.

Before the evening service the men would go to a grove on the hillside southeast of the camp, and the women to a grove west of the camp, for a grove prayer meeting. Sometimes the power would come down upon them and they would return to the camp singing and shouting, and it would be impossible for the preacher to preach, and he would call the mourners, and the alter would be filled with men and women seeking the pardon for their sins.

At times they would sing and pray until after midnight. During this time many would come through, and with radiant faces declare that they had found the Lord and their sins were forgiven.

Sunday was always a great day at camp meeting. People would come from miles around, from Bentonville, Springdale, Fayetteville, and other towns, and from the countryside for 15 or 20 miles. At 4 or 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, people living along the roads leading to the camp ground would be awakened by the rumbling of wagons and the pounding of horses hoofs on their way to the camp meeting. It was the one event of the year to many people.

SPECIAL SONGS

Sunday service at Thornsberry began at 9 a.m., with an experience meeting, that lasted until 11, when someone would preach, then preaching again at 3 o'clock, and again in the evening. The singing can never be forgotten by those who heard it. They were largely camp meeting songs — I am bound for the promised land; Oh, who will come and go with me? and The Old Time Religion makes me love every body, makes me love everybody and its good enough for me.

Those were great days. Many great preachers, both regular and travelling preachers, along with the local preachers took part. Their names are in the Book of Life, and hundreds of men and women found the Lord, and are in Glory now.

A change in population has taken place and left old Thornsberry with few members, but those who lived in the days of the camp meeting will never forget, and in Heaven will have a great reunion in the bye and bye.

(Turn off Highway 68 at the county line, or go down the creek from Elm Springs. Visit the old Camp Meeting place at Thornsberry — it might be good for you.)

- wchs -

INFORMATION SOUGHT

Information needed on WALKER family, parents, descendants, births, marriages, deaths of Jefferson WALKER. He had sons John and Jesse. Jesse was born 1828 married Sarah Jane WILSON. Who were her parents. Jesse and Sarah Jane had the following children: Mary (Millie); William, Jasper, Newton, John, Martha, Vester, Nancy, Margaret and Ann. All were in Washington County in 1876.

Mrs. Rylen M. Rudy, 3309 E. English, Wichita, Kan. 67218.

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